



## Task Card Activity

For your Moon, Mars, and Beyond Mission, you must be able to quickly understand information you hear from Earth Mission Control.

For this lesson, you will listen to or read stories about planet and moon myths. You will then answer as many questions as you can about the stories. This will allow you to practice your listening or reading skills so that your mission work will go more smoothly!

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## Jupiter

Jupiter has been recognized by several cultures. In both the Roman and Greek cultures, Jupiter was the ruler of the universe. He lived with the other gods on Mount Olympus and became ruler when he defeated his father, Saturn.

In the Norse culture, Jupiter was known as Thor, god of Thunder; Thursday is named after Thor.

Ancient astrologers noticed that Jupiter returns to each constellation every 12 years which happens to be the time it takes for one revolution around the sun by Jupiter.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



Answer the following questions about the Jupiter myth.

1. Who was Jupiter?
2. Where did Jupiter live?
3. Who was Jupiter's father?
4. In the Norse culture, Jupiter was known as \_\_\_\_\_.

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## Saturn

Saturn became ruler of the universe by defeating his father, Uranus. He then worried that his children with his wife, Rhea, would turn against him so he began to swallow them as soon as they were born.

Rhea decided to hide Zeus from Saturn until he was grown. After Saturn was given a poison, he began to throw up the children who came out alive.

The children decided to war against Saturn until Zeus became the new ruler.

Saturday is named after Saturn.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



Answer the following questions about the Saturn myth.

1. Who was Saturn's father?
2. What did Saturn do to make sure his children did not turn against him?
3. What happened to Saturn's children?

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



Callisto (Jupiter moon, one of the Galilean moons.)

Callisto was a nymph (mythical young woman) who served Artemis. When Artemis got angry with her one day, Zeus changed her into a bear so she could run away.

But, Artemis was an excellent hunter and he killed poor Callisto with an arrow. (Some say the Great Bear (Ursa Major) constellation refers to Callisto).

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



Answer the following questions about the Callisto myth.

1. Who did Callisto serve?
2. What did Zeus change her into?
3. What happened to Callisto?

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## The Man in the Moon

There once was an Indian village where a boy name “Running Antelope” lived with his grandmother. He went to visit a neighboring village that was ruled by a cruel chief. The chief was very fond of a beautiful young maiden called Little Hill. When Running Antelope saw Little Hill, he fell in love with her and they were married.

The chief was very angry with this and decided to get Little Hill for himself. Every night, when the people gathered in the center of the village for games, the chief would throw out beautiful and valuable pieces of coral and beads for the people to pick up. Running Antelope stayed at the games trying to pick up many beads for his new wife.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## The Man in the Moon (cont.)

When Running Antelope got back to his lodge, Little Hill was gone. He went to the chief's lodge and, as he expected, he heard Little Hill's voice.

He ran into the chief's house and demanded that the chief return Little Hill, but the chief pulled out a knife and Running Antelope had to run for his life! The chief chased Running Antelope shooting poisoned arrows at him. Running Antelope was just about to be caught when he came upon the lake where he prayed to the Water Spirits to save him. The Water Spirits shot a great geyser of water into the sky which hurled Running Antelope all the way to the Moon. When the chief came upon this scene, he shut his eyes in fear.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## The Man in the Moon (cont.)

So, Running Antelope was saved from the chief, but he was forever separated from his beloved wife. Running Antelope became the Man in the Moon.

That is not quite the end of the story.

One day, when the chief was out near the lake, he saw the reflected image of the Moon. To him, the image of Running Antelope was so vivid that he rushed in to fight him. The Water Spirits overwhelmed him with wave upon wave of water until he drowned.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



Answer the following questions about the Man in the Moon myth

1. At the beginning of the story, who did Running Antelope live with?
2. Who did Running Antelope meet in the neighboring village?
3. What helped to save Running Antelope from the chief's attack?
4. What happened to Running Antelope?
5. How did Running Antelope become the Man in the Moon?

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## Apollo 13: A Successful Failure

As Captain James Lovell, Commander of the ill-starred Apollo 13 mission described it:

“Fred [Haise] was still in the Lunar Module. Jack [Swigert] was back in the Command Module [CM] in the left-hand seat, and I was half-way in between, in the lower equipment bay, wrestling with TV wires and a camera, watching Fred come on down, when all three of us heard a rather large bang - just one bang.

“I guess it’s kind of interesting to know what the feelings of the crew are when something like this happens. When you first hear this explosion or bang...you don’t know what it is. We’ve had similar sounds in the spacecraft before that were for nothing...and then I looked out the window and saw this venting...my concern was increasing all the time. It went from ‘I wonder what this is going to do to the landing’ to ‘I wonder if we can get back home again’...one actually at zero and the other one going down...it dawned on me that we were in serious trouble.”

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## Apollo 13: A Successful Failure (cont.)

The serious nature of the emergency was starkly evident to the crew and Mission Control. Lovell and his crew mates were more than 200,000 nautical miles out in space with a dead Service Module, including its main propulsion engine. The explosion had wiped out the CSM's main supply of life-sustaining oxygen and power. The CM's 10 hours of operating life had to be reserved for the approach to the earth's atmosphere because of the three components; it alone had a heat shield which would allow the crew to re-enter the atmosphere and splashdown safely.

The crew's salvation rested with the Lunar Module (LM), the oddly-shaped spacecraft designed to separate from the CSM, land two astronauts gently on the moon, sustain them while there and then carry them back to the mother ship in lunar orbit. But that mother ship was a partial wreck, drifting in space, and the LM became the lifeboat.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## Apollo 13: A Successful Failure (cont.)

What followed was an epic struggle of skilled and highly trained astronauts working in close coordination with the ground-based team at Mission Control against the hostile environment of space. For 86 hours and 57 minutes, more than three days, the struggle continued until the final victory came: Odyssey's trio of orange-striped parachutes dropped the spacecraft into the gently rolling Pacific Ocean 3.5 nautical miles from the prime recovery ship, the carrier Iwo Jima.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## Answer the following questions about Apollo 13: A Successful Failure

1. What was the name of the mission described in the article?
2. Name the astronauts aboard this flight.
3. What had gone wrong with the ship?
4. What part of the ship became the astronauts' "lifeboat?"
5. How long were the astronauts up in space waiting and working to find a way to make it back to Earth?
6. What ship picked them up in the Pacific Ocean?

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## Man on the Moon!!

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy gave a speech. He said the U.S. should work quickly and meet a goal. The goal was to send people to the Moon and back.

The U.S. did meet the goal. It only took eight years. One day in July, Apollo 11 launched towards the Moon. It had three astronauts on it. They were Neal Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, and Michael Collins.

A few days later, Apollo 11 began to orbit around the Moon. Then, Armstrong and Aldrin took the Lunar Module to the Moon. They left Collins in orbit. What did they say when they landed on the moon? "The Eagle has landed." Eagle was the name of the Lunar Module.

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## Man on the Moon!! (cont.)

On July 20, 1969, Neal Armstrong put his left foot on the rocky Moon. It was the first human footprint on the Moon. They had taken TV cameras with them so people all over the world watched when it happened. More people watched this Moon landing than any other show on TV.

The two astronauts walked on the Moon. They picked up rocks and dirt to bring back to Earth. The astronauts had much work to do. Then, the Eagle went back to meet astronaut Collins. He was in the Command Module working.

Apollo 11 splashed down in the Pacific Ocean on July 24, 1969. The astronauts were safe at home.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## Answer the following questions about Man on the Moon!!

1. What was the name of the first mission to the Moon?
2. Name the astronauts on board for this mission.
3. Who was the first man on the Moon?
4. What did he say when he landed on the Moon?
5. What was the Eagle?
6. Where was the third astronaut while the other two were on the Moon?

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## How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

### Enterprise

Enterprise, our first Space Shuttle Orbiter, was to be named Constitution, in honor of our Constitution's Bicentennial. At the same time, Star Trek fans started a write-in campaign for the ship to be named the Enterprise after the flag ship of that TV series.

The shuttle flew five missions, but never went into space. It was used to test the Approach and Landing Test program at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Facility at Edwards Air Force Base. It was retired after 8 years. It is now housed in a flight museum outside Washington, D.C. People can tour the shuttle from the outside only; NASA has taken everything out of the aircraft to use it later.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

### Columbia

Columbia was the oldest orbiter in the Shuttle fleet. She was named after the Massachusetts ship captained by Robert Gray. Gray maneuvered the Columbia past a dangerous sandbar at the mouth of a river at the Washington-Oregon border with Canada. The river was later named after this ship.

"Columbia" is considered to be the feminine personification of the United States. It is derived from the famous explorer, Christopher Columbus.

The Shuttle Columbia was the first space shuttle to fly into Earth's orbit in 1981.

On February 1, 2003, the Columbia and crew were lost as a failure of damaged heat shields caused external damage to the craft upon re-entry. The Columbia was scheduled to touchdown at 9:16 a.m. EST; communication was lost at 9:00 a.m.

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## Questions about How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

1. What was the Space Shuttle Enterprise originally going to be named?
2. How did it then get the name Enterprise?
3. The Enterprise was a space shuttle orbiter, but it never went into space. What did it do?
4. Where is the Enterprise now?
5. How did the Columbia get her name?
6. What was named after the ship, Columbia?
7. What happened to the Columbia? When did it happen?

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

### Discovery

The Discovery was NASA's third orbiter. It was named after one of two ships used by British explorer James Cook. His exploration led to the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands. During the American Revolutionary War, Benjamin Franklin made a request for safe conquest of the Discovery because of the scientific importance of its research. (Another of Cook's ships, the Endeavour, has become NASA's newest shuttle orbiter.)

Many other historic ships have been called Discovery. One Discovery was used by Henry Hudson to explore the Hudson Bay in Canada, and another one was used on an Antarctic expedition.

Space Shuttle orbiters also have number designations. Discovery is commonly referred to as OV-103, meaning Orbiter Vehicle-103.

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## Questions about How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

### Atlantis

The Atlantis is the fourth orbiter and was named after the primary research vessel for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Massachusetts from 1930 to 1966. This vessel was the first U.S. vessel to be used for oceanographic research.

The spaceship Atlantis has flown several important voyages, including the Galileo Planetary Explorer Mission in 1989 and the deployment of the Gamma Ray Observatory in 1991.

### Challenger

The Challenger spacecraft was the second NASA orbiter and was named after an American Naval research vessel that sailed in both the Atlantic and Pacific during the 1870's. The Challenger had flown nine successful Space Shuttle missions when the Challenger and its seven-member crew were lost 73 seconds after launch when an O-ring on one of the solid rocket boosters failed. The liquid fuel in the main tank ignited, causing a fire and explosion.

**GO TO THE NEXT TASK CARD**



## More Questions about How Much Do You Know About Our Space Shuttle?

1. How did the Discovery get her name?
2. Who made a request for safe conquest of the sailing ship, the Discovery, during the American Revolution?
3. Why did he make such a request?
4. What is OV-103?
5. How did the Atlantis get its name?
6. Name two important missions that Atlantis has flown.
7. How did the Challenger space shuttle get its name?
8. How many successful missions had the Challenger flown before it crashed?
9. What caused the Challenger crash?